THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OF MILLIS

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1898.

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1898.

TOWN OFFICERS, 1897-98.

TOWN CLERK.

LOUIS LaCROIX.

SELECTMEN.

W. P. CLARK, M. C. ADAMS, L. LaCROIX.

ASSESSORS.

JOHN M. CRANE, GEO. C. THRASHER, FRANCIS H. DANIELS.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

THOMAS HARDING, H. JONES, H. H. THORNE.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

F. E. COOK, TERM EXPIRES 1898.
E. F. RICHARDSON, TERM EXPIRES 1899.
E. L. RICHARDSON, TERM EXPIRES 1900.

TREASURER.

EVAN F. RICHARDSON.

COLLECTOR AND CONSTABLE.

J. CLARENCE THORNE.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

H. H. THORNE, TERM EXPIRES 1898.
REV. A. H. WHEELOCK, TERM EXPIRES 1899.
LOUIS LaCROIX, TERM EXPIRES 1900.

WATER COMMISSIONERS.

CHARLES LaCROIX, TERM EXPIRES 1898.
J. S. ADAMS, TERM EXPIRES 1899.
W. W. WHITING, TERM EXPIRES 1900.

PARK COMMISSIONERS.

J. S. FOLSOM, '98, O. T. DEAN, '99, L. LaCROIX, 1900.

AUDITOR.

E. F. LOVELL.

Officers Appointed.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

M. C. ADAMS.

FENCE VIEWERS.

J. M. CRANE, P. R. CLARK, F. H. DANIELS.

ENGINEERS AND FIREWARDS.

G. R. HILL, A. L. WARE, F. SWARMAN.

SPECIAL POLICE.

J. C. THORNE, F. T. TOUHEY.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

O. T. DEAN.

PUBLIC WEIGHERS.

J. C. THORNE, E. N. CLARK, F. SWARMAN.

SURVEYORS OF WOOD AND LUMBER.

GEO. C. THRASHER, L. CLARK.

INSPECTOR OF CATTLE.

M. C. ADAMS.

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS.

H. E. HOSMER, P. CLARK, F. SWARMAN.

UNDERTAKER.

E. F. RICHARDSON.

THE RECORDS

OF THE

THIRTEENTH MUNICIPAL YEAR,

ENDING JANUARY 31, 1898.

FIRST TOWN MEETING, ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1, 1897.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean was elected and qualified as moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To choose a clerk, three selectmen, three overseers of the poor, three assessors, treasurer, collector of taxes, two constables, one school committee for three years, one water commissioner for three years, one for one year to fill vacancy, one trustee of public library, three years, one for one year to fill vacancy, one park commissioner for three years, auditor, also to vote "Yes" or "No" to the question, "Shall licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors be granted in this town?" —all of the above to be on one ballot; also to choose all other town officers.

Result of vote as declared:—

Town Clerk:—

Louis LaCroix,	100
Blanks,	23

Treasurer:—

George G. Hoff,	58
Evan F. Richardson,	63
Blanks,	2

Collector:—

J. Clarence Thorne,	105
Blanks,	18

Selectmen:—

Moses C. Adams,	106
Willard P. Clark,	92
Louis LaCroix,	100
Scattering,	2
Blanks,	69

Assessors:—

Edmund N. Clark,	59
John M. Crane,	98
Francis H. Daniels,	81
Geo. C. Thrasher,	91
Blanks,	40

Overseers of the Poor:—

Thomas Harding,	116
Horatio Jones,	101
Herbert H. Thorne,	96
Scattering,	3
Blanks,	53

Constables:—

John H. Ingraham,	81
J. Clarence Thorne,	99
Blanks,	66

School Committee, 3 years:—

Elmer L. Richardson,	97
Blanks,	28

Auditor:—

Edmund F. Lovell,	90
Scattering,	4
Blanks,	29

Trustee Public Library, 3 years:—

Louis LaCroix,	96
Scattering,	3
Blanks,	24

Trustee Public Library, 1 year:—

Herbert H. Thorne,	92
Blanks,	31

Water Commissioner, 3 years:—

Wesley W. Whiting,	86
Scattering,	2
Blanks,	35

Water Commissioner, 1 year:—

Charles LaCroix,	94
Scattering,	1
Blanks,	28

Park Commissioner, 3 years:—

L. LaCroix,	95
Blanks,	28

License:—

"Yes,"	25
"No,"	73
Blanks,	25

Voted: That the selectmen fill by appointment all other offices.

The remainder of the warrant was referred to the following committee as required by the town by-laws:—

W. P. Clark,	J. M. Crane,	J. S. Adams,
Thomas Harding,	E. F. Richardson,	J. W. Clark,
J. S. Folsom,	F. O. Phillips,	G. F. Holbrook,
F. Swarman,	A. L. Ware.	

Voted to adjourn to March 15 at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

ADJOURNED MEETING, MARCH 15.

ARTICLE 3. To hear and act upon the reports of the several town officers and committees.

Voted: To accept the reports of the town officers and committees as contained in the printed reports.

Report of the committee of eleven read by J. W. Clark, clerk of the committee.

ARTICLE 4. To see whether the town will authorize the treasurer to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, the same to be paid from the taxes of 1897.

Voted: To authorize the treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, the same to be paid from the taxes of 1897.

ARTICLE 5. To see what disposition the town will make of the money refunded by the county treasurer on account of dog licenses.

Voted: That the money returned by the county treasurer on account of dog licenses be appropriated to the use of the public library.

ARTICLE 6. To see whether the town will appropriate a sum of money for support and maintenance of the public library.

Voted: To appropriate fifty dollars for support and maintenance of the public library.

ARTICLE 7. To see whether the town will appropriate money for care of cemetery.

Voted: To dismiss the article.

ARTICLE 8 To determine who shall be custodian of the fund created by sale of lots in the cemetery.

Voted: That all moneys now in the treasury for that purpose and all sums received in future from sale of lots shall be added to the Mary Adams fund, and be placed in the hands of the selectmen.

ARTICLE 9. To see whether the town will appropriate a sum of money for expense of Memorial Day.

Voted: To appropriate fifty dollars for the expense of Memorial Day, to be expended by A. P. Blake, J. W. Clark, and G. R. Hill.

ARTICLE 10. To see whether the town will vote to enlarge and repair the Adams schoolhouse, and appropriate money for the same or act in any matter relating to the same.

Voted: That a committee of three be appointed to look into the matter and report at a later meeting. Appointed: J. S. Folsom, E. F. Richardson, H. E. Hosmer.

ARTICLE 11. To see whether the town will purchase new furniture for the Ellice schoolhouse, and appropriate money for the same.

Voted: To appropriate one hundred dollars for new furniture for the Ellice schoolhouse, to be expended by the school committee.

ARTICLE 12. To act on matter of painting schoolhouses as referred to this meeting from the annual meeting of 1896.

Voted: To appropriate fifty dollars to paint the Ellice schoolhouse, to be expended under the direction of the school committee.

ARTICLE 13. To fix the rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes, as required by Article 3, Section 7, of the town by-laws.

Voted: That six per cent be charged on unpaid taxes, as required by Article 3, Section 7, of the town by-laws.

ARTICLE 14. To appropriate money for necessary town expenses for the ensuing year.

Voted to appropriate:—

For roads and bridges	$1,100 00
Sidewalks	100 00
Incidental expenses	1,300 00
Poor department	700 00
Fire department	500 00
Debt and interest	2,750 00
Interest on water bonds	1,200 00
Sinking fund	650 00
Snow bills	100 00
All school purposes	3,375 00

ARTICLE 15. To see whether the town will instruct the selectmen to cause a survey and plans to be made of one mile of Main street from the Medfield line, and petition for the same to be laid out as a state highway, and appropriate money for the expense of the same.

Voted: To appropriate one hundred and fifty dollars for expense of survey and plans of one mile of Main street from Medfield line west, and that the selectmen petition for the same to be made a state highway.

ARTICLE 16. To grant money for all town expenses.

Voted: To grant $9175, and appropriate $3000 from the funds now in the treasury for the expenses of the year.

Voted: That in the expenditure of the town grants the

treasurer be authorized and instructed to refuse payment of any and all orders in excess of the appropriation in each department.

ARTICLE 17. To accept the list of jurors as presented by the selectmen.

Voted: To excuse Curtis Holland and Stanley A. Clark, and add name of John M. Crane.

Voted to accept list as follows:—

Asahel F. Lovell,	George P. Simmons,	Geo. F. Holbrook,
Fred Swarman,	Wesley W. Whiting,	Albert J. Babcock,
John F. Clark,	Charles F. Hood,	George R. Hill,
Wm. D. Rowell,	Marcellus A. Ware,	John M. Crane.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the town will purchase sureties for the treasurer and collector.

Voted: That when the treasurer and collector shall furnish a bond satisfactory to the selectmen, the town shall pay for the same.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

SECOND MEETING, MAY 8, 1897.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside over said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean elected and qualified as moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the town will vote to enter into any arrangement with responsible parties providing for the lighting of its streets by electricity, in connection with the operation of its water works, or take any action in relation thereto.

Voted: Yes 63, No 7; That the selectmen and water commissioners be a committee to represent the town, and are hereby instructed to make a five-year contract for street lighting by electricity in connection with the operation of its water works with the Millis Electric Light Co. or other responsible parties at an expense of not over five hundred dollars per year,

with full powers and authority to arrange all necessary details of the contract and bind the town therefor within these general limitations; (1) The town shall receive an electric current for 120 incandescent lamps of 20 c. p. each from sunset until midnight; (2) The town shall not be put to an expense for an addition to its pumping station, new boilers, machinery, electric fixtures, lamps, etc., in excess of $1725.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the town will vote to purchase a new boiler for its water works, and enlarge its pumping station, or take any action in relation thereto.

Voted unanimously: That this article be referred to the selectmen and water commissioners, with full powers to make such additions to pumping station and the purchase of new boilers in connection with making a contract for electric street lighting as is provided for under Article 2, with full powers to bind the town; provided no expense shall be incurred in connection therewith in excess of $500 per year for the street lighting, and an expense of not over $1725 for improvements in pumping station, purchase of new boilers, machinery, and electric fixtures.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the town will vote to make appropriations for such money as may become necessary under any of the above articles.

Voted unanimously: That the sum of $1725 be appropriated for the purpose of making an addition to the pumping station, the purchase of a new boiler, and such machinery and electric fixtures as may be necessary to enable the town to make a contract for street lighting with the Millis Electric Light Co., or such other responsible party or parties as may be approved by the selectmen and water commissioners.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will state the time of making a contract, and the time that the street lights shall be in operation.

Voted unanimously: That the committee shall close a contract and begin operations not later than thirty days from date, and that the lights are to be in operation not later than September, 1897.

ARTICLE 6. To hear the report of the committee(appointed March 15, 1897) on altering and repairing Adams schoolhouse, or act on any matter relating thereto, and to appropriate money for any expense that may be incurred for getting out plans and specifications.

Voted: To appropriate $50 for the use of the committee in procuring plans and specifications and estimates, or any expense connected therewith.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to authorize the treasurer to reimburse George C. Thrasher for certain sums paid to treasurer in place of tax deeds of property of J. McGinness and others, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That any equitable sum be appropriated to reimburse Mr. Thrasher for any sums due him from the town.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,

Town Clerk.

THIRD MEETING, JUNE 26, 1897.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean elected and qualified as moderator.

ARTICLE 4. To hear the report of any committee, and to act thereon.

Mr. W. P. Clark, chairman of electric committee, made a partial report.

Voted: That the report be accepted and the committee be discharged.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to appropriate for the lighting of the streets with electricity or by other means, for the ensuing year, or do or take any action in relation thereto.

Voted: That the sum of $500 be appropriated for the purpose of lighting the streets during the ensuing year.

Voted: That the method of lighting, making of contracts, and all matters of detail connected therewith be left in the hands of a committee of seven, consisting of the board of water commissioners and four others, to be appointed by the chair, with full powers to act and bind the town.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will authorize a special committee to make a contract with responsible parties for lighting the streets with electric lights for a term of years, or take any action in relation thereto.

Voted: To postpone indefinitely.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will vote to purchase two 50-horse-power boilers for its water works, and enlarge its pumping station, or take any action in relation thereto.

Voted: That the town purchase two 50-horse-power boilers for its pumping station, and build an addition to its pumping station at a total expense not exceeding $2500 in amount, providing arrangements can be made with responsible parties whereby power can be furnished yielding an income to the town of at least $500 per annum for a period of five years, said purchases and contracts to be made and addition to be erected by said committee of seven provided for in preceding vote under Article 5.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to enter into any arrangement with responsible parties to provide for the lighting of its streets with electricity in connection with the operation of its water works, or take any action in relation thereto.

Voted: That it is the sense of the town to make, if possible, an arrangement with responsible parties for the lighting of its streets with electricity in connection with the operation of its water works, and that the special committee of seven appointed under Article 5 be a committee to represent the town, with authority to make a five-year contract with responsible parties at an annual expense of not exceeding $500 per annum, and with authority to arrange all necessary details and to bind the town therefor within these general limitations:—

(1) The town shall receive electric current for 120 incandescent lamps of 20 c. p. each, from sunset to midnight.

(2) The town shall incur no expense for new boilers, machinery, and addition to its pumping station in excess of $2500.

(3) The town shall receive for any horse-power furnished at least $500 per year.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to appropriate and raise by borrowing or otherwise, such sums of money as may be necessary for all or any of the purposes mentioned in the foregoing articles.

Voted: 40 Yes, 14 No; That the sum of $2500 be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing two boilers and building an addition to its pumping station, the same to be paid from money on hand in the treasury.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the report of the committee (appointed March 15 to look into the advisability of enlarging the Adams schoolhouse), and act in any matter relating thereto.

J. S. Folsom for committee reported with plans for alteration of the Adams schoolhouse.

Voted: To accept the report.

Voted: To adopt the report of the committee.

Voted: That the school committee be the committee to carry out the plans as recommended.

ARTICLE 3. To appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary by the action of the town on the preceding article.

Voted unanimously: That a sum not to exceed $3000 be appropriated from the amount in the treasury at the close of last financial year.

The moderator appointed on committee named in Article 5: Edmund N. Clark, Albert B. Cheney, James W. Townsend, Herbert H. Thorne. Albert B. Cheney declined to serve, and Henry E. Hosmer was appointed in his stead.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,

Town Clerk.

FOURTH MEETING, AUGUST 28, 1897.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Unanimously elected John M. Crane as moderator.

ARTICLE 2 To see if the town will appropriate money to supply furnishings and finish Adams schoolhouse according to plans.

Voted: To appropriate $1000 for finishing and furnishing the Adams schoolhouse and putting the bell back.

ARTICLE 3. To authorize the treasurer to borrow any sums appropriated under Article 2.

Voted unanimously: That the town authorize the treasurer to borrow one thousand dollars until May 1 next.

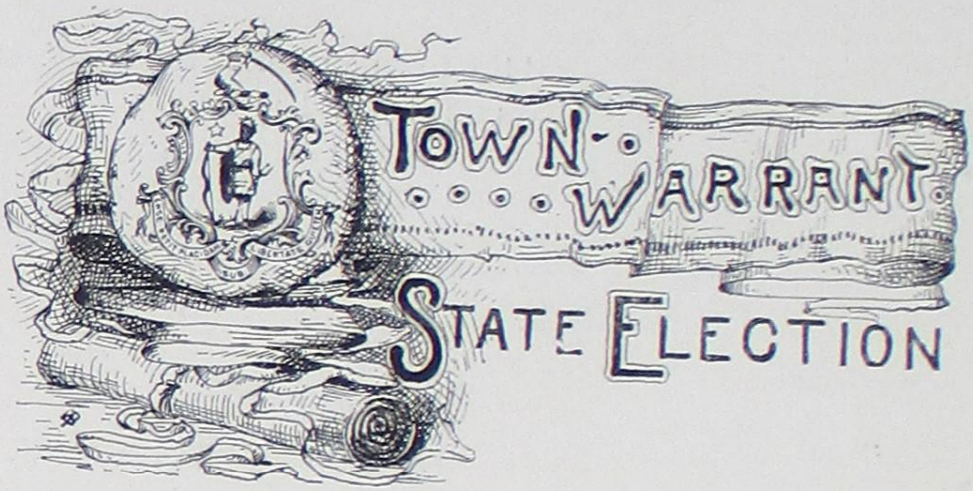
ARTICLE 4 To hear and act on the report of the selectmen on laying out of a new street from Union street to the pumping station, and to appropriate money for land damage and expenses of same; also to authorize treasurer to borrow money for same.

Dismissed at request of the selectmen.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,

Town Clerk.



TUESDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1897.

Then and there to bring in their votes for the following officers:—

Governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, treasurer, auditor, attorney-general, councillor, senator, representative in the General Court, county commissioner, register of deeds, county treasurer.

Result of vote as declared:—

Governor:—

William Everett of Quincy, Democratic National,	7
George Fred Williams of Dedham, Democratic,	10
Roger Wolcott of Boston, Republican,	41
Blanks,	3

Lieutenant-Governor:—

Edward A. Buckland of South Hadley, Socialist Labor Party,	1
Christopher T. Callahan of Holyoke, Democratic,	7
James E. Cotter of Hyde Park, Democratic National,	6
W. Murray Crane of Dalton, Republican,	39
Willard O. Wylie of Beverly, Prohibition,	1
Blanks,	7

Secretary:—

Charles D. Nash of Whitman, Democratic,	9
William M. Olin of Boston, Republican,	44

Bernard M. Wolf of Boston, Democratic National,	3
Blanks,	8

Treasurer:—

Edward P. Shaw of Newburyport, Republican,	41
Horace P. Tobey of Wareham, Democratic National,	3
Thomas A. Watson of Braintree, Democratic,	9
Blanks,	8

Auditor:—

Harry Douglas of Great Barrington, Democratic National,	4
John W. Kimball of Fitchburg, Republican,	39
Joseph Henry Sheldon of Haverhill, Democratic,	9
Herbert M. Small of Templeton, Prohibition,	1
Blanks,	8

Attorney-General:—

Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford, Republican,	42
William W. McClench of Chicopee, Democratic National,	3
John A. O'Keefe of Lynn, Democratic,	9
Blanks,	7

Councillor, Second District:—

Dana Estes of Brookline, Democratic National,	6
Benjamin S. Lovell of Weymouth, Republican,	40
George O. Wentworth of Stoughton, Democratic,	7
Blanks,	8

Senator, Second Norfolk District:—

Henry H. Francis of Stoughton, Democratic,	8
Fred Homer Williams of Brookline, Republican,	44
George S. Winslow of Norwood, Democratic National,	4
Blanks,	5

Representative in General Court, Ninth Norfolk District:—

Albert Clark of Wellesley, Republican,	37
George N. Smith of Wellesley, Democratic,	16
Blanks,	8

County Commissioner, Norfolk:—

James Hewins of Medfield, Democratic, Democratic National, Republican,	45
Blanks,	16

Register of Deeds, Norfolk County:—

John H. Burdakin of Dedham, Democratic, Democratic National, Republican,	45

Blanks, 16

County Treasurer, Norfolk:—

Charles H. Smith of Dedham, Democratic, Democratic National, Republican, 44

Blanks, 17

Result of the vote cast November 2, 1897, in Medfield, Needham, Dover, Wellesley, and Millis for one representative to the General Court for the ninth Norfolk representative district:—

Total number of ballots cast in district, 1009

Total number of blanks in the district, 96

	Albert Clark, Wellesley.	Geo. N. Smith, Wellesley.	Scattering.	Blanks.
Medfield,	118	63		29
Needham,	206	95		30
Dover,	27	21		7
Wellesley,	207	121	2	27
Millis,	37	16		8
	595	316	2	96

Louis LaCroix,

Town Clerk.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The town clerk is prepared to furnish all parties with blanks for making returns of births and deaths, as required by the Statutes of Massachusetts.

Persons neglecting to make returns are liable to a fine.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

BIRTHS RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1898.

DATE.	NAME.	PARENTS.
1897.		
Feb. 18 .	Dorothy May Hoff . .	Geo. C. and Anna P. (Dimon).
23 .	Thomas Welch . . .	Thomas G. and Margaret (Murphy).
Mar. 17 .	Annie Murphy . . .	Daniel J. and Kate A. (Driscoll).
23 .	Lena Evans	George and Annie (McDavitt).
23 .	Mary Lena LaCroix . .	Edward and Lena C. (Adalstein).
Apr. 4 .	Gladys May Harding .	Frank S. and Katie (Obst).
6 .	James Ezra Stanley . .	Jonathan C. and Edna A. (Rogers).
May 11 .	Joseph Alfred Johnson .	William K. and Nellie (Simpson).
19 .	Thomas Keefe . . .	Thomas and Maggie (Mongaven).
July 12 .	—— Boyle	Frank and Josephine Boyle.
Aug. 29 .	Edward Lewis Peckham .	John L. and Mabel F. (Moody).
Oct. 27 .	Rosabel Stevens Thrasher	George C. and Abbie A. (Stevens).
Nov. 7 .	Narcissa Brainard Simmons	George P. and Anna M. (Skarp).
30 .	Carroll Bradford Frink .	Herbert C. and Isabella A. (Draper).
Dec. 9 .	Edith Frances Simpson .	Clarence E. and Katherine B. (Bacon).
17 .	Marjorie Lucretia Dean .	Osgood T. and Mary E. (Libby).
22 .	Bertha Cora Tingley . .	George C. and Elizabeth L. (Bullard).
24 .	Susie Marie Cassidy . .	Terrence H. and Mary E. (Ford).

MARRIAGES RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1898.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	BY WHOM AND WHERE MARRIED.
1897.			
Oct. 27 .	Thomas Dwyer . . .	Westboro .	Rev. D. J. Keleher,
	Mary G. Shea . . .	Millis . .	Medway.
Nov. 3 .	George H. Merrill . .	Leominster .	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Ethel G. Brown . . .	Leominster .	Millis.
11 .	Arthur Parrish . . .	Rockville .	Rev. Wm. M. Thayer,
	Florence A. Ferriss . .	Franklin .	Franklin.
20 .	Jacob Seidenberg . .	Millis . .	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Katrine Baumann . .	Millis . .	Millis.
25 .	Robert M. O'Donnell . .	Medway . .	Rev. D. J. Keleher,
	Catherine A. Carroll . .	Millis . .	Medway.
Dec. 11 .	John Larsen	Cambridge .	Rev. L. R. Swett,
	Mary G. Corliss . . .	Millis . .	Cambridge.

DEATHS RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1898.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE.			PLACE OF BURIAL.
1897.		Y.	M.	D.	
Mar. 27 .	Polly R. Prentice . .	90	8	28	Gardner.
31 .	Lena Seidenburg . . .	40	1	23	Millis.
Apr. 29 .	Peter White	60			Millis.
May 15 .	L. Gertrude Slayton . .	38	1	13	Vermont.
June 12 .	William T. Warren . .	58	3	20	Warwick.
14 .	Annie C. S. Ingraham .	39	1	16	Millis.
19 .	Edna G. Gassett . . .	9	11	20	Millis.
July 28 .	Joel Baker	70	3	14	Millis.
29 .	William Mannix . .	78	9	11	Medway.
Aug. 7 .	Thomas Keefe . . .	40			Holliston.
Sept. 2 .	Ann McGreary . . .	75			Holliston.
4 .	Catherine Crowley . .	66			Holliston.
25 .	James Ezra Standley .		5	19	Beverly.
Oct. 30 .	Joseph E. Shepardson .	73	3	17	City Mills.
Nov. 18 .	Lewis B. Smith . . .	80	2	26	Millis.
18 .	Hannah P. Bullard . .	80	11	25	Millis.
Dec. 7 .	Robert Forbes . . .	76	11	11	New Hampshire.
9 .	Alton N. Freeman . .	32	7	3	Nova Scotia.
18 .	James W. Townsend . .	43	11	23	Everett.
25 .	August Martinson . .	3	4	13	Millis.
Jan. 18 .	Pearllee D. Bullard . .	74	5	19	Millis.
20 .	Susan Caldwell . . .	55	1	2	Nova Scotia.

BURIALS IN MILLIS, DEATHS IN OTHER PLACES.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE.			PLACE OF DEATH.
1897.		Y.	M.	D.	
Mar. 27 .	William LaCroix . .			1	Lynn.
May 24 .	Mary LaCroix Stevens .	35	7	18	Lynn.
June 2 .	James LaCroix . . .	4	11	26	Lynn.
July 19 .	Adaline E. Haynes . .	76	2	5	Norfolk.
Sept. 6 .	Eliza A. Baker . . .	81	3	30	Medfield.
Dec. 1 .	Reuben E. Nichols . .	75			Philadelphia.

THE treasurer's books show the following receipts and expenditures during the month of February, 1897, during the administration of Charles G. Brackett, treasurer for that month :—

Feb. 1897.	CASH.		DR.
1	Balance		$8,022 90
	Interest on deposit A. L. & T. Co.	$ 9 08	
4	Taxes, 1896, J. C. Thorne, collector	50 00	
	" " " "	40 81	
5	" " " "	456 03	
	" 1893-4-5, Geo. C. Thrasher, collector	228 93	
6	" 1893-4-5, " "	476 61	
	Frank H. Pollock, surplus of tax sale	2 00	
	Abner Chute, " "	8 56	
	Ami Vuillier, " "	8 93	
	Geo. C. Morrill, " "	7 36	
	Estate of H. P. Millis, " " Lot 1	4 50	
	" " " " " 2	2 77	
	" " " " " 3	34	
	" " " " " 4	28	
9	Poor Department, Town of Kingston	60 54	
20	Incidentals, inspector of animals	15 00	
	Taxes 1896, interest J. C. Thorne, collector	18 22	
	" 1896, excess, " "	2 00	
			1,391 96
			$9,414 86

Feb. 1897.	CASH.		CR.
4	Tax titles, estate of H. P. Millis	$ 9 04	
	" Ann McGreery	23 60	
	" Heirs of E. O'Donnell	8 17	
	Amount carried forward,	$40 81	

	Amount brought forward,		CR.
4	Fire department, M. J. McDonough	$40 81	
6	Incidentals, J. C. Thorne, collector	1 00	
6	" G. C. Thrasher, collector	126 18	
	Highways, W. H. Andrews	371 77	
8	Military aid, Patrick Higgins	3 00	
	Snow, Daniel Dinneen	8 00	
	Snow, Lemuel Clark	7 50	
	State aid, for January, 1897	7 80	
9	Fire department, Edward Tebo	30 00	
	" G. N. Lavender	50	
15	" D. C. Fisher	1 25	
	Interest, N. F. Goldsmith to Feb. 8	75	
	Fire department, J. C. & H. H. Thorne	60 00	
20	" M. Murphy	18 00	
	Incidentals, Thomas Harding	1 50	
	" C. G. Brackett & A. R. Gay	35 00	
	Poor department, C. L. Hazelton	4 50	
		5 00	
			$ 722 56
	Balance		8,692 30
			$9,414 86

Approved March 15, 1897.

E. F. Lovell,
Auditor.

I HEREWITH submit my report of the receipts and expenditures of the town for the year ending January 31, 1898.

Evan F. Richardson, *Treasurer,*

In account with the Town of Millis, Mass.

Dr.

Balance received from C. G. Brackett March 16, 1897		$8,692 30
Millis Savings Bank, 80 per cent dividend		862 50
Poor department, city of Malden	$32 76	
" estate of Ruth C. Harding	3 50	
" state treasurer	16 89	
" Kingston	4 90	
" Athol	21 00	
		79 05
Amount carried forward,		$9,633 85

Amount brought forward,		$9,633 85
School department, sale of books and supplies		7 80
Incidentals, state treasurer		25 00
Court fines, R. G. Fairbanks	$73 90	
" Emery Grover	10 00	
		83 90
Auctioneers' license		2 00
Peddler's license		3 00
Slaughter licenses		2 00
Demand note, Medway Savings Bank		2,000 00
Treasurer of Commonwealth, corporation tax		132 76
Treasurer of Commonwealth, national bank tax		235 53
Treasurer of Commonwealth, state aid		336 00
Treasurer of Commonwealth, military aid		32 00
Treasurer of Commonwealth, Massachusetts school fund		345 03
County treasurer, dog tax		116 80
Interest American Loan & Trust Co.		98 98
Taxes, J. C. Thorne, collector		9,855 65
Interest on taxes, J. C. Thorne collector		6 75
Total		$22,917 05

Cr.

N. F. Goldsmith, note and interest		$1,030 50
Medway Savings Bank, demand note and interest		1,026 25
State St. Safe Deposit & Trust Co., interest on water bonds		1,200 00
State treasurer, interest on time loan		400 00
" park loan and interest		1,155 00
Water commissioners, sinking fund		650 00
State tax		595 00
County tax		833 98
Selectmen's orders, highways	$1,045 40	
" sidewalks	54 87	
" incidentals	1,301 29	
" survey state road	116 25	
" snow bills	141 17	
" state aid	318 00	
" military aid	88 00	
		3,064 98
Overseers of poor, orders		1,156 59
Fire engineers' orders		474 84
Amount carried forward,		$11,587 14

Amount brought forward,		$11,587 14
School committee orders, schools	$3,717 83	
" " school building	4,000 00	
" " Ellice school, painting	50 00	
" " " furniture	100 00	
		7,867 83
Trustees of public library, orders		166 80
Memorial Day committee		50 00
Building plans committee		19 00
Electric light committee, orders		2,434 42
Court expenses, Warren C. Rhodes	$ 45	
" Frank Touhey	28 04	
" J. C. Thorne	63 88	
" A. L. Harriman	8 55	
		100 92
Tax deeds, G. C. Thrasher		173 99
" canceled, J. C. Thorne		142 66
Taxes		8 37
Balance		365 92
Total		$22,917 05

LIABILITIES.

Water bonds due Dec. 1925, at 4 per cent interest	$30,000 00
Park loan note due Nov. 7, 1898, at 3⅞ per cent interest	1,000 00
Park loan note due Nov. 7, 1899, at 3⅞ per cent interest	1,000 00
Park loan note due Nov. 7, 1900, at 3⅞ per cent interest	1,000 00
N. F. Goldsmith note, due Aug. 8, 1898, at 6 per cent interest	1,000 00
Demand note, Medway Savings Bank, at 3½ per cent interest	1,000 00
Loan from Treasurer of Commonwealth, due Nov. 1, 1900, to Nov. 1, 1906 at 4 per cent interest	10,000 00

EVAN F. RICHARDSON,

Treasurer.

I have examined the accounts of the treasurer and found them correct with original vouchers for all orders, paid by him, of the different officers as appear in their reports.

The amount on deposit with the American Loan & Trust Co. equals that called for by his account.

EDMUND F. LOVELL,

Auditor.

SELECTMENS REPORT

THE selectmen organized with Willard P. Clark as chairman, Louis LaCroix as clerk of the board, and Moses C. Adams as superintendent of streets.

Streets.

The streets are in only fair condition, and should have much more work done than the appropriations will allow. The street from the post-office to East Millis depot, especially the hill, needs a large amount of work done, being narrow and steep.

July 13 a petition was filed asking for the laying out of a town way from near the East Millis station to the pumping station. The abutters were notified and a hearing given and survey made. At this time agreement has been made with all but one of the abutters. When agreements are all made it will be formally laid out and reported to the town for acceptance.

State Highway.

Acting under the expressed wish of the town, we caused survey and plans to be made covering Main street from the Medfield line west to Dover street. These plans, with petition,

were presented to the state highway commission, and at a date fixed by them we appeared at a hearing and presented our claims to the best of our ability. Decision on the matter will not be reached until the Legislature decides on the sum to be appropriated to state highways for the year 1898.

Guide-Boards.

Guide-boards are maintained at all places required for public convenience, and are with one or two exceptions in good order.

Special Cases.

Two cases have come before the selectmen the past year out of the usual run. First the diphtheria cases of O. H. Gassett and family, and the death of one child. The selectmen, acting as board of health, were obliged to act and be responsible; as a result a bill of sixty dollars ($60) was contracted which belongs to the town of Hopkinton to pay, and they have been notified.

The second case was that of Patrick Nolan under the old Soldier Act of 1890, care and expenses to the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea. This bill it is hoped the City of Cambridge will pay.

Highway Department.

BRIDGES, ETC.

Appropriation for highways		$1,100 00
S. G. Clark, lumber for bridge	$ 5 27	
W. W. Whiting, lumber for bridge	8 71	
James Logan, labor	1 33	
		$15 31
J. H. Shannon, repairs		2 60

NORTH DISTRICT (F. E. COOK, FOREMAN).

L. Clark, labor and teams	$ 57 00	
J. L. Snow, labor and teams	15 75	
F. E. Cassidy, labor and teams	32 75	
S. Huntley, labor and teams	4 00	
Amounts carried forward,	$109 50	$17 91

Amounts brought forward,	$109 50	$ 17 91
D. Dinneen & Son, labor and teams	34 25	
F. E. Cook, labor and teams	41 88	
F. E. Cook, gravel	7 75	
E. N. Clark, labor and teams	24 50	
James Dinneen, labor	28 50	
T. O'Riley, labor	12 81	
Phillip Cassidy, labor	4 50	
J Spellman, labor	16 50	
John Clark, labor	4 80	
J. M. Crane, man, labor,	11 00	
L. LaCroix and others, labor	4 80	
J. W. Daniels, gravel	4 00	
E. LaCroix, drain pipe	1 80	
		306 59

SOUTH DISTRICT.

E. L. Richardson, labor and team	$58 50	
F. H. Daniels, labor and team	12 88	
G. C. Tingley, labor and team	23 55	
J. C. Standley, labor and team	37 75	
E. Ryan, labor	25 30	
M. Maguire, labor	19 58	
J. F. Clark, labor	27 67	
D. McCarty, labor	16 00	
D. McCarty, jr., labor	13 58	
Mrs. E. H. Ferrer, gravel	13 05	
E. T. Rogers, repairs	65	
		248 51

CENTRE DISTRICT.

P. Clark, team and labor	$ 25 75	
E. F. Richardson, team and labor	50 23	
J. C. Brown, team and labor	20 00	
S. A. Clark, team and labor	22 00	
J. Townsend, team and labor	6 00	
J. C. Thorne, team and labor	152 50	
Charles LaCroix, team and labor	4 00	
E. E. Burnett, labor	20 00	
T. Keefe, labor	12 00	
L. McDonough, labor	9 50	
H. Sawyer, labor	1 68	
J. Shea, labor	19 50	
Amounts carried forward,	$343 16	$573 01

Amounts brought forward,		
O. T. Dean, labor	$343 16	$537 01
T. G. Welch, labor	19 50	
T. McMahon, labor	1 83	
A. Obst, labor	3 00	
J. McDonough, labor	3 00	
T. Moloy, labor	4 50	
H. C. Frink, labor	11 25	
M. Splahan, labor	13 50	
H. Caldwell, labor	11 25	
J. Birch, labor	12 75	
J. Seidenberg, labor	6 00	
M. C. Adams	3 75	
N. White, gravel	5 00	
G. S. Hosley, gravel	7 65	
M. C. Adams	4 00	
E. M. Bent, drain pipe	4 20	
	18 05	
		$472 39
		$1,045 40

SIDEWALKS.

Appropriation		$100 00
E. L. Richardson	$ 8 80	
J. C. Standley	6 00	
G. C. Tingley	4 00	
Burton Parker	1 50	
E. Ryan	2 25	
J. F. Clark	2 25	
D. McCarty, jr.	1 50	
W. P. Clark	1 50	
		$27 80
F. E. Cook	$ 8 57	
F. E. Casidy	4 00	
L. Clark	4 00	
D. Dinneen	1 50	
James Dinneen	2 25	
J. M. Crane	6 75	
		$27 07
Total expenditure		$54 87
Unexpended balance		$45 13

Snow Bills.

Appropriation		$100 00
L. Clark, 1896	$ 7 80	
D. Dinneen, 1896	7 50	
J. Spellman, 1896	3 75	
P. Clark	13 00	
I. Cousins	4 25	
J. P. Spencer	3 75	
H. Crusar	3 75	
D. Murphy	4 75	
H. E. Hosmer	1 50	
C. Holland	1 25	
F. Holland	1 25	
G. Myer	1 25	
P. Brier	2 35	
L. McDonnough	1 75	
T. Keefe	1 75	
C. F. Spencer	1 25	
W. H. Thorne	50	
D. C. Fisher	50	
O. T. Dean	1 00	
J. C. Thorne	20 00	
J. Dinneen and others	10 50	
J. Spellman	4 17	
A. Shotz and others	18 25	
E. F. Richardson	2 25	
J. H. Barker	1 73	
L. Clark	4 97	
M. E. Murphy	7 50	
I. R. Clark and men	7 45	
G. C. Thrasher	5 50	
S. A. Clark	3 30	
E. L. Richardson	2 25	
F. E. Cassidy	4 20	
J. F. Clark	1 50	
		$156 47

State Aid.

E. M. Bullen	$ 72 00
S. D. Bullen	48 00
S. L. Fisher	48 00
Amount carried forward,	$168 00

Amount brought forward,	$168 00	
L. A. Foster	48 00	
G. E. Mason	48 00	
E. A. Hill	48 00	
G. Y. Sylvester	12 00	
		$324 00

MILITARY AID.

P. Higgins	$ 96 00	
Town of Medway, account J. F. Stratton	24 00	
		$120 00

STATE HIGHWAY.

Appropriation		$150 00
H. S. Partridge, C. E., survey and plan	$105 00	
J. W. Townsend	6 00	
Edward E. Adams	5 25	
		$116 25

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Appropriation		$ 1,300 00
From treasurer of the Commonwealth, one half salary of cattle inspector		40 00
		$1,340 00
T. Harding, overseer, 1896	$ 35 00	
H. Jones, overseer, 1896	15 00	
A. P. Blake, overseer, 1896	20 00	
G. M Billings, printing reports	113 90	
S. J. Spear, printing ballots	8 00	
E. F. Lovell, auditor	25 00	
N. E. railroad, coal	33 49	
American Surety Co., bonds	56 25	
C. G. Brackett, printing, etc.	14 25	
Good Roads Co., scraper edge	8 55	
G. M. Billings, printing	60	
G. G. Hoff, heating office and library	15 00	
George H. Ellis, printing	6 75	
George C. Thrasher, printing	1 00	
W. P. Clark, insurance	7 50	
Secretary of the Commonwealth, register for voters	1 00	
C. G. Brackett, treasurer	12 29	
Amount carried forward,	$373 58	

Amount brought forward,	$373 58	
W. W. Whiting	6 90	
E. LaCroix	24 37	
George C. Thrasher	2 10	
M. R. Warren Co., record books	4 00	
H. T. Richardson, legal services	10 00	
J. M. Crane, assessor and expense	70 25	
F. H. Daniels, assessor	35 00	
George C. Thrasher, assessor	86 53	
Assessors' blanks	2 15	
H. A. Bullard, printing	8 40	
Grange Hall association, rent	50 00	
S. H. Frink, care town office	10 00	
W. P. Frink, whitewashing lockup	5 00	
H. S. Partridge, C. E., survey	10 00	
Edward E. Adams	3 00	
M. C. Adams, inspector of cattle	50 00	
E. F. Richardson, salary treasurer	50 00	
E. F. Richardson, postage, etc.	16 00	
H. C. Dimond, rubber stamp	1 25	
J. C. Thorne, collector, 1897	102 03	
W. P. Clark, selectman, 1897	50 00	
M. C. Adams, selectman, 1897	50 00	
Louis LaCroix, selectman, 1897	50 00	
Louis LaCroix, town clerk	25 00	
Louis LaCroix, recording births, marriages and deaths, 1897	15 80	
Louis LaCroix, fees paid physicians and undertakers	8 50	
Louis LaCroix, express, postage and expenses	5 40	
W. H. Thorne, police	5 00	
H. H. Thorne, overseer, 1897	20 00	
T. Harding, overseer, 1897	35 00	
C. G. Brackett, rubber stamp	4 50	
J. C. Thorne, constable and police	50 00	
		$1,239 76
By order of board of health, on account of diphtheria in family of O. H. Gassett:—		
H. McIntosh, M. D., medical services	$38 00	
E. F. Richardson, undertaker	22 00	
		60 00
Amount carried forward,		$1,299 76

Amount brought forward,		$1,299 76
Expense under Acts of 1890, Chap. 447, account Patrick Nolan:—		
A. Mitchell, M. D.	$ 1 50	
George W. Morrill, board	33 00	
J. C. Thorne, expenses to Soldiers' Home	6 53	
		41 03
Total		$1,340 79

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Clark,
Moses C. Adams,
Louis LaCroix,

Selectmen of Millis.

LIST OF JURORS

To be Presented to the Town for Acceptance,
March 7, 1898.

Marcellus A. Ware, organ pipe m'f'r.
John F. Clark, baker,
Charles F. Hood, mechanic,
George P. Simmons, mail carrier,
Albert J. Babcock, painter, *
Asahel F. Lovell, farmer,
Fred H. Holland, farmer,
Edmund F. Lovell, painter,
Elmer L. Richardson, farmer,
James P. Spencer, farmer,
John H. Swarman, mill hand, *
Augustus L. Ware, organ pipe m'f'r.
J. Herbert Wight, shoemaker.

* Excused at meeting

THE following report is respectfully presented for the year ending Jan. 31, 1898.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by the town	$700 00	
Town of Kingston	65 44	
City of Malden	32 76	
Estate of R. C. Harding	3 50	
State	16 89	
Town of Athol	21 00	
		$839 59
There is due from Town of Kingston	$116 73	
Town of Milford	3 00	
City of Malden	82 86	
City of Newton	188 56	
City of Waltham	5 00	
Town of Norfolk	90 91	
State	25 00	
		$512 06

Expenditures.

T. G. WELCH.

Paid C. L. Hazelton, groceries	$ 24 06	
W. M. Hoar, groceries	24 95	
J. S. Folsom, groceries	23 46	
G. C. Tingley, milk	20 84	
J. H. Thorne, milk	10 64	
J. C. Brown, milk	4 50	
Thorne Bros., coal	42 25	
H. P. Hooper, M. D., medical attendance	42 25	
Mrs. Edward Mitchell, nurse	12 00	
G. C. Thrasher, wood	1 25	
E. F. Richardson, wood	4 00	
		$210 20

SUSAN HALL (Newton).

Paid George Morley, board		81 56

ELIZA DREW (Kingston).

Paid Samuel H. Frink, board	$104 23	
Samuel H. Frink, clothing	4 90	
G. Forbes, jr., clothing	12 50	
		121 63

WILLIAM WALLACE (Newton).

Paid J. S. Folsom, shoes		3 00

MRS. JOSEPHINE BOYLE (State).

Paid H. P. Hooper, M. D., medical attendance	$ 5 00	
Mrs. L. M. Smith, board and care	20 00	
		25 00

MRS. PORTER BOYDEN.

Paid George C. Thrasher, wood		12 50

CHARLES POWELL.

Paid Thomas Harding, board		9 00

MARY A. SHUMWAY.

Paid Mrs. Henry Crusar, board	$156 40	
Mrs. Henry Crusar, clothing	2 40	
		158 80
Amount carried forward,		$621 69

Amount brought forward,		$621 69
CARRIE RICE.		
Paid City of Boston		34 00
JOHN HAGGERTY.		
Paid City of Boston		8 00
ANN MCCREERY (Athol).		
Paid E. F. Richardson, burial expenses		21 00
MRS. MCBRIDE AND CHILD (Waltham).		
Paid Mrs. Elvira Bullard, board		5 00
MRS. RICHARD MCGRATH.		
Paid City of Chelsea	$2 00	
Thomas Harding, car fare	66	
		2 66
ABIGAIL PARTRIDGE.		
Paid John A. Hutchins, board		160 62
LYDIA A. CHADBOURNE (Malden).		
Paid J. S. Folsom, groceries	$48 46	
Thorne Bros., coal	11 40	
George C. Thrasher, wood	3 00	
Cash	20 00	
		82 86
RICHARD MCGRATH CHILD.		
Paid Mrs. L. M. Smith, board		10 00
PETER WHITE.		
Paid E. F. Richardson, burial expenses		12 00
E. J. HARRIS (Norfolk).		
Paid A. J. Gallison, medical attendance	$30 00	
E. J. Keith, groceries	24 64	
J. S. Folsom, meat	16 49	
J. C. Standley, milk	9 28	
Mrs. J. H. Haines, rent	6 00	
C. J. Murphy, wood	4 50	
		90 91
INCIDENTALS.		
Paid Thomas Harding, fare	$1 02	
Thomas Harding, blanks	1 00	
		2 02
Amount carried forward,		$1,050 76

Amount brought forward,		$1,050 76

TRAMP ACCOUNT.

Paid Thomas Harding, materials for tramp house	$ 3 00	
Thomas Harding, care 1022 tramps	102 20	
Thomas Harding, sawing wood	50	
George C. Thrasher, wood	2 00	
Thorne Bros., coal	3 13	
		110 83
		$1,161 59

THOMAS HARDING,
HORATIO JONES,
HERBERT H. THORNE,

Overseers of the Poor.

Engineers Report of Fire Department

For the Year Ending Jan. 31, 1898.

THE board of engineers and forest fire-wards organized May 3, 1897, with G. R. Hill chief, F. Swarman assistant, and J. S. Adams, clerk. Upon Mr. Adams resigning, A. L. Ware was appointed to fill the vacancy.

We would report the fire apparatus in good condition, and would recommend an appropriation of $500 for general expenses for the ensuing year.

Fires During the Year.

1897.

March.—Grass on land of J. F. C. Slayton.

March.—Grass on land of John Shea.

April 1.—In shoe factory of J. M. Herman & Co.

April 19.—Grass and sprout land of Millis Ice Co.

April 20.—Grass and sprout land of J. Townsend and others.

April 22.—On land of Henry Daniels. (No alarm.)

July 1.—Alarm near Holliston line.

July 18.—W. Wallace "Barn tenement."

October 17.—Wood land of H. E. Hosmer.

November 24.—Alarm, near Holliston line.

List of Bills Approved by Engineers.

David Fisher, labor	$ 75
E. Tebo, labor	50
J. C. Thorne, drawing engine	18 00
O. L. Tebo, labor	75
E. Tebo, labor	75
J. Obst, labor	1 50
C. L. Hazelton, supplies	1 25
J. S. Folsom, supplies	4 75
C. L. Elwell, labor	25
G. N. Lavender, labor	2 00
O. T. Dean, labor	2 00
Rhoda E. Waite, rent Nov. 1, '96 to May 1, '97	14 00
Niagara Engine Co., salaries to May 1, '97	129 50
F. Swarman, engineer to May 1, '97	10 00
E. L. Richardson, drawing engine	4 00
L. E. Sawyer, janitor	10 00
Rockville Engine Co., salaries to May 1, '97	23 25
J. C. Thorne, drawing engine	26 00
W. H. Thorne, teams	4 00
C. F. Hood, labor	2 50
Alva Richardson, labor	50
David Fisher, labor	1 25
J. S. Adams, engineer to May 1, '97	6 00
W. W. Whiting, engineer to May 1, '97	6 00
John Shea, labor	1 00
P. Nolan, labor	50
J. H. Barker, labor	1 25
Ed. Adams, labor	50
H. C. Frink, labor	5 50
C. H. Hood, labor	25
W. P. Frink, steward to May 1, '97	20 00
J. Frink, labor	1 25
F. Mullekin, labor	1 25
E. LaCroix, repairs at engine house	1 59
G. C. Thrasher, wood	3 00
O. T. Dean, insurance Rockville engine	9 00
O. T. Dean, insurance Niagara engine	7 50
Niagara Engine Co., salaries to Nov. 1, '97	48 00
Rockville Engine Co., salaries to Nov. 1, '97	27 50
Rhoda E. Waite, rent to Nov. 1, '97	14 00
Amount carried forward,	$411 59

Amount brought forward,	$411 59
F. Swarman, engineer to Nov. 1, '97	5 00
F. Swarman, repairs	1 00
Daniel Murphy, labor	1 25
W. P. Frink, steward to Nov. 1, '97	12 50
W. P. Clark, insurance on engine house	22 50
J. C. Thorne, coal	6 25
J. C. & H. H. Thorne, drawing engine	22 00
M. A. Ware, labor	50
W. H. Thorne, labor	50
L. E. Sawyer, janitor to Nov. 1, '97	5 00
G. R. Hill, engineer to Nov. 1, '97	6 00
	$494 09
Grant	$500 00
Expended	494 09
Unexpended balance	$5 91

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. L. Ware,

Clerk of Engineers of Millis, Mass.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

DURING the year Mrs. Bessie C. Thorne resigned as librarian, and Miss Ada D. Jacoy was appointed to fill the vacancy.

There have been about one hundred volumes added to the library during the year, besides the valuable reports which the state and national governments yearly contribute to our resources. This makes the present number of books in the library about twenty-six hundred.

A careful examination a few months ago showed the books to be in excellent condition, with only two or three volumes missing. The circulation of books has been such as to prove that the library is appreciated by young and old.

The committee ask for generous consideration the coming year in the matter of appropriation for library uses.

Respectfully submitted by

A. H. Wheelock,
Louis LaCroix,
Herbert H. Thorne,

Trustees of the Millis Public Library.

Financial Statement of the Public Library Trustees, 1897.

Receipts.

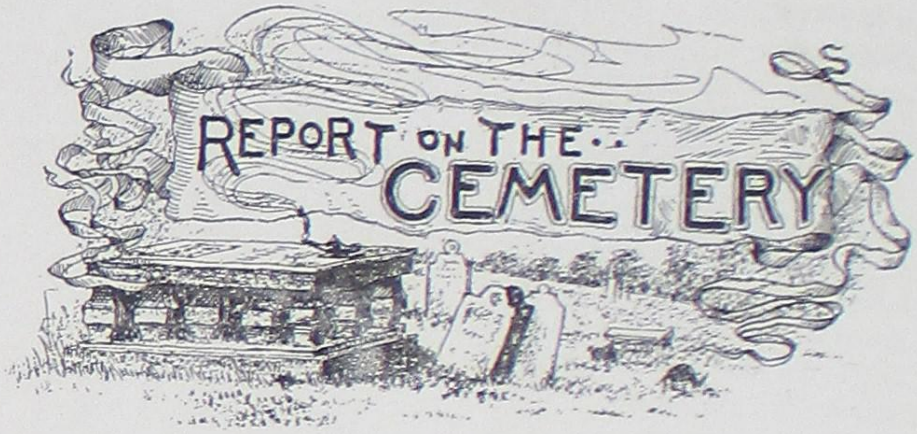
Balance from 1896	$ 5 03	
Town appropriation	50 00	
Refunded dog tax	116 80	
Fines and sale of catalogues	11 00	
		$182 83

Expenditures.

Mrs. Bessie C. Thorne, librarian	$ 25 00	
Expenses	7 76	
Miss Ada D. Jacoy, librarian	20 83	
Expenses	2 29	
W. D. Noyes & Co., magazines '97	22 65	
Werner & Co., magazines	1 00	
W. P. Clark, insurance	17 50	
Jordan, Marsh & Co., books	14 30	
Estes & Lauriat, books	23 86	
Engineering Magazine, 2 years	6 00	
Congregational Publishing Society	4 66	
Library Bureau Pub. Co.	45	
Balance in hands of treasurer	36 53	
		$182 83

Louis LaCroix,

Treasurer of the Board.



THE commissioners of Prospect Hill cemetery submit herewith their annual report for the year ending Jan. 31, 1898.

March 23, 1897, paid to W. P. Clark, chairman of selectmen, cash on hand as per last report		$13 00
September 18, Received of W. P. Clark interest on fund	$28 08	
Received for wood sold	2 67	
		$30 75
Expended :—		
May, for trespass notices	$2 00	
May, for labor, H. E. Hosmer	10 50	
May, " C. F. Hood	7 75	
October, for labor, Herbert Frink	4 50	
October, " H. E. Hosmer	6 00	
		$30 75

Mr. H. Robins Richardson has planted a number of maple trees at his own expense.

About fifty Revolutionary soldiers lie buried here and their descendants are invited to place markers at their graves.

Four graves are already marked in this manner, viz.:—

Lieut. Theodore Clark, Dr. Abijah Richardson, Oliver Richardson, Simeon Richardson.

The commissioners will assist any one to locate said graves or in getting the markers. In some towns all the Revolutionary soldiers' graves are thus marked.

For the Commissioners,

H. E. Hosmer.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

1897 and 1898.

Dr.

To assessors' warrant	$10,203 34	
Interest collected	6 75	
		$10,210 09

Cr.

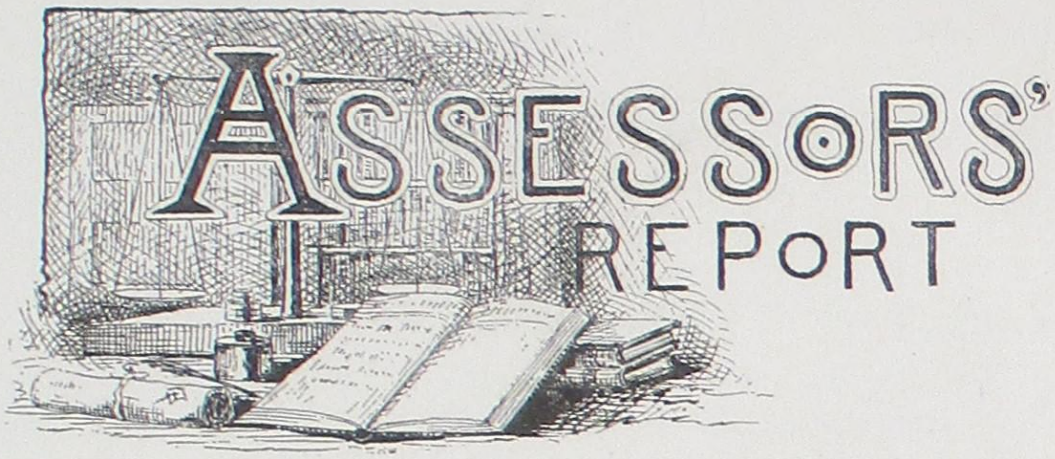
By amount paid treasurer	$9,862 40	
Abatements, 1897	347 69	
		$10,210 09

In regard to the large amount of abatements for 1897, I wish to state that the assessors, on Dec. 15, 1897, abated and re-assessed three properties to the amount of $219.11, which leaves the actual abatements $128.58. The above amount of $219.11 will be in the town treasury by March 1, 1898.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Clarence Thorne,
Collector.

Feb. 5, 1898.



THE assessors have to report that owing to the surplus funds in the town treasury in the spring of 1897, they were enabled to make quite a low rate of taxes for the year. It is with regret that in view of the heavy expenditures during the past year for electric light purposes, the new schoolhouse, and other items, they greatly fear the incoming board will be forced to largely increase the rate for the ensuing year.

As there had been some complaint in the past as to the high valuation of the town, the board procured the published valuation of Medfield, Medway, and Sherborn, and after a careful comparison to the best of their ability they were unable to find any material difference in the comparative valuation of the four towns. Below will be found a statement of valuations:—

Buildings	$443,830
Land	212,135
Personal	63 880
	$719,845

Acres of land 7149 3-8. Horses 194. Cows 439. Sheep 1. Other neat cattle 70. Swine 61. Fowl 1460.

For the Board,

J. M. CRANE.

REPORT OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS.

To the Citizens of the Town of Millis:—

ON the 30th day of March, 1897, the commissioners met and elected the following officers: Chairman, J. Sylvanus Adams; clerk and register, Wesley W. Whiting.

At the annual town meeting $650 was appropriated for the sinking fund, and this sum was placed on deposit at the Dedham Institution for Savings.

A dividend of 80 per cent being paid by the receiver of the Millis Savings Bank, part of it was placed on deposit at the Dedham Institution for Savings, and the balance in the Medway Savings Bank, making the disposition of the sinking fund as follows:—

Appropriations for 1895, 1896 and 1897, $650 each		$1,950 00
Investments:—		
Dedham Institution for Savings	$1,000 00	
Medway Savings Bank	825 20	
Millis Savings Bank	124 80	
		$1,950 00

The line of service pipe was extended on Plain street about 50 rods to the residence of Mrs. A. J. Goodrich, at an expense of $94.24.

Mr. J. S. Adams was retained as engineer at the pumping station.

J. S. Adams,
W. W. Whiting,
Charles LaCroix,

Water Commissioners.

Financial Statement.

Wesley W. Whiting, Water Register, in account with Town of Millis Water Department for the year ending January 31, 1898.

Dr.

Balance Jan. 31, 1897	$1,031 64	
Water rent first quarter	251 84	
" second quarter	212 25	
" third quarter	309 87	
" fourth quarter	336 50	
Interest on deposit in Medway Savings Bank	10 10	
Sinking fund, town appropriation	650 00	
		$2,802 20

Cr.

J. S. Adams, salary	$546 00
J. C. Thorne, labor	3 50
J. C. Thorne, coal and carting	319 48
Harrington & Bradbury, supplies	7 45
Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Co., insurance	62 50
G. W. Miller, labor	2 00
J. S. Folsom, supplies	2 80
W. M. Hoar, supplies	1 00
E. LaCroix, labor and supplies	43 49
Water register office expense	11 55
Sinking fund	650 00
O. T. Dean, labor	9 00
C. L. Elwell, labor	3 00
Jacob Wise, labor	7 50
James Dinneen, labor	7 50
D. Dinneen, labor	3 00
Dennis McCarty, labor	7 50
John Olson, labor	3 75
E. Ryan, labor	6 75
M. McGuire, labor	7 50
M. Splain, labor	15 00
T. McMahan, labor	1 19
H. Pollard, labor	1 19
C. L. Elwell, rebate	1 00
Amount carried forward,	$1,723 65

Amount brought forward,	$1,723 65	
Walworth M'f'g Co., supplies	28 01	
W. W. Whiting, salary water register	50 00	
Charles LaCroix, labor and supplies	32 65	
Dean Steam Pump Co., labor and supplies	8 62	
Adams Express Co.	75	
Total expenditures		$1,843 68

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts	$2,802 20	
Expenditures	1,843 68	
Balance		$958 52
In Medway Savings Bank	$175 50	
In Millis Savings Bank	128 01	
Cash on hand	655 01	
		$958 52

I have examined the foregoing account of water register and find it correct.

EDMUND F. LOVELL,

Auditor.

REPORT OF

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the Citizens of the Town of Millis :—

IT gives us pleasure to report that the public schools are in excellent working condition, and reflect great credit on both superintendent and teachers. For further information relating to the school work we would refer you to the superintendent's report, of which we ask a careful reading.

Since our last report the Adams school has been enlarged and thoroughly repaired, and will now compare well with other modern school buildings.

The financial report shows a small balance of $10, and for the coming year it is our judgment that the schools cannot be maintained at their present standard of excellence without an appropriation of $3500.

Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS FOR SCHOOLS.

Annual grant	$3,300 00	
For superintendent	75 00	
Amount from state school fund	345 03	
Amount from sale of books and supplies	7 80	
Total avails		$3,727 83

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

Paid town of Medway, high school tuition	$186 00
D. Henry Whipple, principal	669 60
Miss Annie H. Bradford, assistant	126 00
Miss Mabel S. Calef, assistant	138 60
Amount carried forward,	$1,120 20

Amount brought forward,	$1,120 20	
Miss Lillian W. Kane	316 80	
Miss Susie O. Newhouse	352 00	
Miss May B. Hamilton	208 60	
Miss Grace E. Soule	56 00	
Miss Minna Morse	281 60	
Total		$2,333 20
Paid for transportation:—		
W. H. Thorne	$121 20	
F. E. Cook	14 00	
Total		$135 20
Paid for care of schoolhouses:—		
S. H. Frink	$148 05	
H. H. Thorne	25 50	
Miss Grace E. Soule	6 00	
Miss May B. Hamilton	5 00	
Miss Minna Morse	35 75	
Total		$220 30
Paid for fuel:—		
G. C. Tingley, wood	$ 7 85	
E. N. Clark, wood	3 00	
J. C. Thorne, coal	201 65	
E. F. Richardson, wood	5 00	
L. E. Sawyer, labor	2 50	
Total		$220 00
Paid for books and supplies:—		
Silver, Burdett & Co.	$ 38 87	
Ginn & Co.	57 05	
The J. L. Hammett Co.	150 38	
Samuel Ward Co.	3 20	
American Book Co.	39 03	
W. Ware & Co.	14 50	
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.	4 59	
Thompson, Brown & Co.	3 12	
Henry Holt & Co.	5 76	
Almy, Bigelow & Washburn	6 90	
Amount carried forward,	$323 40	

Amount brought forward,	$323 40	
Maynard, Merrill & Co.	18 32	
Middlesex Newspaper Co.	4 50	
D. H. Whipple	10 94	
Total		$357 16

Paid for supervision :—

D. Henry Whipple, superintendent	$75 00	
F. E. Cook, secretary	6 00	
E. F. Richardson	20 00	
E. L. Richardson	20 00	
F. E. Cook	20 00	
Total		$141 00

Paid for incidentals :—

J. M. Crane, rent	$36 00	
E. LaCroix, labor	2 50	
C. S. Williams, labor	3 35	
Mrs. Mary Williams, cleaning	4 00	
Mrs. James Spellman, cleaning	1 00	
S. H. Frink, cleaning and labor	20 48	
J. F. Clark	90	
Grange Hall Association, rent	75 00	
Dr. H. P. Hooper	10 00	
S. O. Newhouse	60	
G. M. Billings, printing	10 00	
Mrs. Seidenberg, cleaning	90	
Henry E. Hosmer, labor	2 00	
J. S. Folsom	5 33	
W. P. Clark, insurance	104 25	
Ashton Valve Co.	4 80	
E. L. Richardson, money paid out	2 35	
D. H. Whipple, express and supplies	8 26	
E. F. Richardson, express and curtains	4 50	
J. H. Ingraham, truant officer	2 00	
W. H. Thorne, truant officer	3 50	
W. H. Thorne, team for superintendent	5 25	
Chandler Adj. Desk & Chair Co.	2 00	
Total		$308 97

SUMMARY.

Amount for teaching	$2,149 20	
Medway high school	186 00	
Transportation	135 20	
Fuel	220 00	
Care of houses	220 30	
Books and supplies	357 16	
Incidentals	308 97	
Supervision	141 00	
Total		$3,717 83
Total avails	$3,727 83	
Total expense	3,717 83	
Balance unexpended		$10 00
Amount granted for seating and painting Ellice schoolhouse		$150 00
Paid Chandler Adjustable Chair & Desk Co.	$100 00	
E. F. Lovell, labor and stock	40 00	
W. W. Whiting, labor and stock	6 63	
Louis LaCroix, labor	3 37	
Total		$150 00

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. RICHARDSON,
F. E. COOK,
E. L. RICHARDSON,
School Committee.

REPORT OF

SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Your committee having been elected the last of June, 1897, to make additions and repairs to Adams schoolhouse according to plans which had been accepted by the town, and have the building ready for occupancy at the commencement of the Fall term, saw the necessity of immediate action. The building of the tower was let out by contract, and the contract was given to J. E. Stone of Rockville, as he made the most satisfactory bid. Mr. Stone's job was done in a workmanlike manner and within the specified time.

The repairs of the old building were taken in charge by Mr. W. W. Whiting, and all the work was well and thoroughly done.

Toward the completion of the building it became evident that the first appropriation of $3000 was not large enough, and at an additional town meeting, held August 28, $1000 was appropriated to complete the work; and your committee regret to state that even that sum proved insufficient, and there are now bills due amounting to $271.58, for which we ask an appropriation.

SCHOOL BUILDING.

Appropriation		$4,000 00
Expended:—		
Jacob Wise, labor	$ 19 77	
C. F. Hood, labor	59 90	
J. C. Thorne, labor	49 00	
John Olsen, labor	64 89	
H. E. Hosmer, labor	68 00	
H. H. Thorne, labor and freight	12 40	
W. P. Clark, insurance	2 00	
Amount carried forward,	$275 96	

Amount brought forward,	$275 96	
Curtis Holland, labor	103 46	
Frank Mulliken, labor	22 84	
G. French	20 10	
E. A. Daniels	29 72	
George R. Hill	216 34	
W. W. Whiting	673 40	
J. E. Stone	1,302 18	
Lemuel Clark	74 69	
Patrick O'Hara	5 78	
Thomas Harding	65 00	
M. F. Campbell, paint	43 24	
E. F. Lovell	58 86	
George L. Myers	25 25	
C. Kingsbury	23 75	
Fred Roach	1 30	
W. D. Parlin	7 09	
Wm. Hall & Co.	2 50	
The C. E. Osgood Co.	12 30	
Frank Finley	4 65	
Joe Frink	2 65	
A. R. Daniels	71 00	
G. A. Green & Co.	4 50	
S. H. Frink	7 50	
G. G. Hoff	13 59	
Waldo Brothers	13 60	
E. LaCroix	246 36	
The J. L. Hammett Co., slate	154 46	
Louis LaCroix	87 75	
M. Splain	6 00	
Herbert Frink	4 75	
Chandler Adj. Chair & Desk Co.	369 97	
Almy, Bigelow & Washburn	23 90	
J. H. Shannon	12 07	
J. S. Folsom	13 49	
		$4,000 00

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. Richardson,
Frank E. Cook,
E. L. Richardson,
School Building Committee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the School Committee of Millis,

GENTLEMEN:—

I HEREBY present my second annual report of the schools of this town, showing their present condition, referring to their development, and offering suggestion for their further progress.

STATISTICS.

For the winter and spring terms of 1897, the schools were organized as follows:—

Adams School.

HIGH DEP'T, 1st and 2d years. GRAMMAR DEP'T, Grades 7, 8, 9.

D. H. WHIPPLE, *Principal.*

ANNIE HENSZEY BRADFORD, *Assistant.*

*ROLL OF HONOR.

WINTER TERM.—Edith L. Clark, Harry F. Holbrook, George B. Holland, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, Herbert F. Hood, Bennie O'Hara, Alva L. Richardson.

SPRING TERM.—Edith L. Clark, Emma F. Cook, Carrie F. Howe, Kate E. Hughes, Harry F. Holbrook, George B. Holland, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood.

INTERMEDIATE, Grades 4, 5, 6.

LILLIAN WOOD KANE, *Teacher.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

WINTER TERM.—Annie L. Brackett, Charles H. Brackett,

*Neither absence nor tardiness.

Sumner R. Clark, Frank S. Hoff, Arthur Mills, Charles L. O'Hara, J. Thomas Toner.

Spring Term.—Josephine R. Clark, Sumner R. Clark, E. Carleton Howe, Leon E. Rice.

Grange School.

Primary, Grades, 1, 2, 3.

Susie O. Newhouse, *Teacher.*

Daniell School.

Primary and Intermediate, Grades 1-5.

Grace E. Soule, *Teacher.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

Winter Term.—Oscar Seidenberg, John Spellman.

Ellice School.

Primary and Intermediate, Grades 1-5.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Winter Term.—Cyrus Sawyer.

Spring Term.—Hazel Greene, Cyrus Sawyer.

The present classification, as follows, was adopted when the schools occupied the remodeled Adams building at the opening of the fall term:—

Adams School.

Enrolment.	Room 1.		Present Membership.
15 pupils.	High Dept.	1st and 2d years.	7 pupils.
44 pupils.	Grammar Dept.	Grades 7, 8, 9.	31 pupils.

D. H. Whipple, *Principal.*

Mabel Stanley Calef, *Assistant.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

Fall Term.—Edith E. Andrews, Mabel H. Blake, Mary E. Cassidy, Sibyl P. Thrasher, Charles H. Brackett, Sumner R.

Clark, Levi Goodrich, Harry F. Holbrook, George B. Holland, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, Fred B. Roach.

ROOM 2.

ENROLMENT.	GRADES 5, 6.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
39 pupils.	LILLIAN WOOD KANE, *Teacher.*	29 pupils.

ROLL OF HONOR.

FALL TERM.—Alice T. McMahan, C. Maud Stewart, Frank L. McDonough, James H. McDonough, Harry M. Wight.

ROOM 3.

ENROLMENT.	GRADES 3, 4.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
49 pupils.	SUSIE O. NEWHOUSE, *Teacher.*	38 pupils.

ROLL OF HONOR.

FALL TERM.—Sophia E. Dolan, Annie M. Milne, Ralph D. Goodrich, John H. Olsen, William Welch.

ROOM 4.

ENROLMENT.	GRADES 1, 2.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
45 pupils.	MAY B. HAMILTON, *Teacher.*	36 pupils.

ROLL OF HONOR.

FALL TERM.—Annie Cassidy, Eva Cassidy, Sadie B. Frink.

Ellice School.

ENROLMENT.	GRADES 1-6.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
40 pupils.	MINNA A. MORSE, *Teacher.*	39 pupils.

ROLL OF HONOR.—YEAR.

Sumner R. Clark, Harry F. Holbrook, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood.

Total enrolment, 232 pupils; increase over last year, 61 pupils. Enrolment Sept. 6, 1897 to Jan. 31, 1898:—

Ages 5- 8:	77	pupils.
" 9-14:	127	"
" 15- :	13	"
Total,	217	"

Grade	I.	Boys	19;	Girls	15;	Total	34.
"	II.	"	13;	"	11;	"	24.
"	III.	"	17;	"	24;	"	41.
"	IV.	"	11;	"	11;	"	22.
"	V.	"	13;	"	15;	"	28.
"	VI.	"	7;	"	9;	"	16.
"	VII.	"	8;	"	10;	"	18.
"	VIII.	"	6;	"	6;	"	12.
"	IX.	"	7;	"	5;	"	12.
High 1st yr.		"	0;	"	0;	"	0.
" 2d "		"	7;	"	3;	"	10.
Total,		Boys	108;	Girls	109;	Total	217.

Table of Attendance.

School.	Term.	Av. Mem.	Av. Attend.	Per cent of Attend.	Yearly Av.
Adams High-Gram.,	W. & S.	39.27	36.20	92.18	92.88
Adams, Room 1,	Fall	47.35	44.31	93.58	
Adams Intermediate,	W. & S.	34.29	31.19	90.97	92.45
Adams, Room 2,	Fall	29.77	27.96	93.92	
Grange Primary,	W. & S.	35.75	30.66	85.76	88.84
Adams, Room 3,	Fall	39.49	36.30	91.92	
Daniell Int. & Prim.,	W. & S.	17.48	14.27	81.64	86.38
Adams, Room 4,	Fall	39.44	35.94	91.12	
Ellice Int. & Prim.,	W. & S.	28.78	24.04	83.53	85.43
Ellice Int. & Prim.,	Fall	36.38	31.77	87.33	

Per Cent of Attendance by Months.

February, 1897,	86.26.	September,	94.41.
March,	86.11.	October,	93.34.
April,	88.70.	November,	89.93.
May,	88.20.	December,	88.98.
June,	89.37.	January, 1898,	92.18.

General average for the year, 89.75.

School Calendar.

Fall Term.*—Ellice School, Sept. 7, 1897—Dec. 17.
Adams School, Sept. 13, 1897—Dec. 24.
Winter Term.—Grades I.-VI., Jan. 3, 1898—March 18.
High-Grammar, Jan. 3, 1898—March 25.
Spring Term.—Grades I.-VI., April 4—June 10.
High-Grammar, April 4—June 11.
Fall Term.*—Tuesday, Sept. 6, 1898—Dec. 16.
School Year: Grades I.-VI., 36 weeks; High-Grammar, 38 weeks.

The year just closed has been an important one in the history of this department, changes having been made that have done much to establish our schools more firmly in the system of grade classification than has hitherto been possible; the nearer the approach to the organization of the city schools, the better the chance for the pupil in the country to compete with the scholar trained under those conditions that have naturally been assumed as the standard. It is a fact too well known to need comment, that the pupil from a country school has too frequently been forced to enter a lower grade on going to a school in the larger town or city; in many cases this would be a natural condition, yet the town is not doing all in its power, for the welfare of its children, unless it has its schools so organized as to obtain the maximum result of its teaching ability. That this idea has become general is easily shown by the increase in the number of towns that have adopted "central" schools, where the grading is more systematic, and hence the teaching more effective, than would be the case in the ungraded—or the many-graded—"district" school.

In my report a year ago, the need of increase of accommodation for our school membership was dwelt upon at some length, and suggestion offered as to a means of meeting that need; the committee appointed to look into the matter, having

*Grades I.-VI., recess of Thanksgiving week.

favorably reported, changes were subsequently made in the building of the

Adams School.

We are now provided with a four-room schoolhouse that compares most favorably with the accommodations of similar towns. Complete renovation of the old building and the addition of the tower, containing halls, cloak-rooms and recitation-room on the first and second floors, with additional room on the third floor, give provision quite adequate to our needs, notwithstanding the fact that the increase in the membership of the schools was beyond expectation.

The schoolrooms have been supplied with adjustable furniture and slate boards; the recitation-room with folding chairs; set bowls with aqueduct-service water are in each hall; and a play-room is provided in the basement. The heating and ventilating system is one of the most desirable features of the building, being constructed on plans approved by the Board of Inspectors, District Police, yet not at the great expense of so many of the other modern methods; its successful working has proven its value.

From reference to the statistics, it will be seen that in the readjustment of the schools, two grades are assigned to a room, except in the high-grammar department, where there are at present four classes for the principal and his assistant. The pupils from the Grange and Daniell schools are united in corresponding grades, and those of the latter above the primary grades were combined with the former Adams intermediate classes. By this method, we have placed these schools upon a working basis, second to none this town has ever had the privilege of enjoying, and it is fair to anticipate an appreciable increase in the effectiveness of the work.

Other advantage comes from opportunity for the superintendent to have so much of the school work under his personal daily observation,—a closer acquaintance of detail being acquired than was possible before.

Development of the Schools.

That the work of the schools has materially changed is now apparent, particularly in the upper grammar grades; a comparison of examinations given in January two years ago, as well as those of last year, and those given this winter, show a decided difference in favor of the more advanced work at present. The changes suggested a year ago have been carried out as far as possible at this time of the year, with satisfactory results.

Special attention has been directed to the cultivation of the power to recognize conditions and readily determine results; mental arithmetic, natural science with "experiment, observation, and inference" method, as well as geometry, have furnished ample opportunity to emphasize this practical lesson, for in the sharp competitions of the business world, it is this ability that characterizes the "smart" and successful man.

Reading.

Much emphasis has been given this subject in preceding reports, but there is no more danger of over-estimating its importance in our schools, than there is of having too many good readers, for (quoting from last year's report) "as reading is the fundamental process by which we gain the recorded thoughts of others, it holds a position in the course of our education that nothing else can." It has been the purpose, during the year, to cultivate a *taste* for good reading by treating the supplementary work as specimens of literature, and leading the pupil to an interest not only in the story but in the style of the author; and indeed, with the modern "reading-book" do we find this idea prevailing as shown in the selections from our standard authors.

The relation of the public library to the work of the classroom has been kept before the minds of the scholars, and suggestions made for outside reading; additions to the material for reading should frequently be made, as the awakened desire calls for fresh supply of the mental food.

Geography.

Probably no subject in the courses of the elementary schools has received more thought and the treatment undergone greater change within recent years, than that of geography; today, the subject treats of "the earth as the home of man" and with man as the central figure, all other conditions are made tributary to him. That idea being foremost, it can readily be seen that the text-book of years gone by is ill-adapted to meet the requirements of the modern thought; in the purpose to keep our schools as fully as possible in line with the approved thought of the day, the change of book for the lower classes from the one that has been in use for many years to the "Natural Geography" of recent publication, is not only an important, but an advantageous one for our pupils, for it will enable a more complete change from the old methods of dealing with the subject. It is earnestly desired that the upper grades may be able, shortly, to enjoy a similar advantage.

Part of the "nature work" carried on has had a close relation to this subject, and above the first and second grades, observations for the conditions of the weather have been duly recorded, as in the following tabulated order:—*

Date.	Hour.	Temp.	Sky.	Wind.	Remarks.
1898. Jan. 28.	9	10°	Fair.	N. W.	
	12	14°	"	N. E.	
	3	14°	"	N. E.	
31.	9	4°	Snow.	N. E.	Coldest morning. Big storm began.
	12	13°	"	N. E.	
	3	18°	"	N. E.	

Teachers are at liberty to use individual methods in this work, and in one room the records are illustrated by flags as used by the U. S. Signal Service department.

In the primary grades the general conditions of the weather have been illustrated by means of colored disks, yellow for clear sunshine, blue for a dull or partly cloudy day, while slate color has represented storm.

*Copied from record of Room 2, Adams school.

The interest awakened in these natural phenomena has been marked, and the value of the work should not be treated too lightly, especially as local conditions of the weather are thus discovered and made the basis of the knowledge of meteorology as found in the course in geography.

Penmanship.

Though vertical penmanship has been established for several years in the Millis schools, the natural development of the system has produced successive changes in writing-books, and in November the method of Merrill's Vertical Penmanship was adopted, which has since been used with favorable results.

Drawing.

This subject has not received its due share of attention in recent years in our schools, but at present, effort is being made to establish it, with definite grade requirements, as outlined in the course provided by the State Board of Education, Sixtieth Annual Report; illustrative sketching is earnestly advocated in connection with other subjects.

Music.

While songs have been sung and certain essentials of music notation have been presented, no complete course has been followed throughout the schools for several years; at present, work is being carried on in systematic manner, and it is hoped this cheerful element in school life will have so firm a hold upon scholars and teachers alike, that its absence would suggest the truth contained in the remark that "a school without music is like a day without sunshine." To further aid in this course, the schools are now well equipped with the books and charts of the Normal Course, and for the high-grammar school, the Cecilian Series of Study and Song, additional; the provision of these books meets a long-felt want.

Physical Exercises.

The advantage of a well-developed body for a well-developed mind has not been lost sight of by our teachers, and the

daily physical exercises, based on the Ling system of gymnastics, tend to materially aid the pupils in pose and carriage, as well as to furnish periods of relaxation from study during the sessions.

Attendance.

Attention is directed to the table of attendance under the statistics, for the purpose of noting the increase in the regularity with which our pupils have been to school during this last term. It emphasizes the fact that under the system of central schools and transportation, a higher percentage of attendance is maintained. Special attention has been given this matter, and a noticeable increase is shown in the Ellice school, as well as in the Adams. The general average of 89.75 per cent is the highest rate attained for five years, but we should be able to maintain at least the present standard, the average of this last term being 91.77 per cent, as against 87.73 per cent for the preceding terms.

Parents as well as teachers must show an interest in this matter, and absence from school should not only be discouraged, but actively opposed, unless for the most valid of reasons. The responsibility of uninterrupted attendance, if felt in the home, as at the school, will do much toward maintaining not only a higher rank of our town in the state, but will aid the pupil greatly in his work; it is a false idea that a few days' absence at the beginning or the close of a term will make no difference, for such cannot be the case in any well-regulated school.

The advantage gained in this respect, this year, should not be lost, whatever the influence may have been; it may not be amiss to attribute one cause to the fact that we have had fewer changes among the teachers, than was the case a year ago, the only instances being in the resignation of Miss Grace E. Soule, who was succeeded by Miss May B. Hamilton at the Daniell school, and Miss Annie H. Bradford, who was followed by Miss Mabel Stanley Calef as assistant in the high-grammar school.

Visitors.

Occasion has been taken in the reports of preceding years to comment upon the lack of visits to the school, especially on the part of parents. While not expressing satisfaction at the results of this year, it will be timely to acknowledge a noticeable gain in this regard.

A recent report from the schools shows that since the first of September, there have been visits from parents as follows: Adams school, Room 1, twelve; Room 2, eight; Room 3, fourteen; Room 4, fourteen; Ellice school, three; total, fifty-one. The entire number of visits for the year is 391, including the above mentioned, as well as 17 visits from the school committee, and 73 visits by the superintendent.

While the total of visits may seem large, it must be borne in mind that on several occasions there have been special exercises, which doubtless attracted a number who have not been in the habit of going to the schoolroom to observe the regular work. While the teachers are ready to welcome all interested, at any time, they are aware of a benefit to the scholars arising from a frequency of visitors during the recitation periods, and it is this attention to the schools that we would specially encourage, to the mutual advantage of parent and teacher.

Suggestion and Acknowledgement.

In reviewing the work for the year, much can be noticed that is encouraging; that our schools are not at a standstill, but are progressing, is evident, and it is believed that our citizens see and appreciate this. It must be kept in mind, however, that our conditions are not ideal, and much need be done to fulfill the conception of the modern school; it is the purpose of the present policy to extend the progress and efficiency of the schools of this town just as fully as our local conditions will admit.

A suggestion in this line would be to have the sixth grade of the Ellice school attend the Adams school where they

would have the benefit of the time of a teacher who has but two grades instead of six; this would not only aid that particular class, but would admit of greater justice to the other five grades.

Books of reference should be found in each room adapted to the work and understanding of the pupils, for individual effort is the measure of individual progress today, and the willing scholar should not be hampered too seriously by lack of material; the supply of a first class encyclopædia in the high-grammar school is a need that we anticipate will be met shortly, as provision has partially been made for it.

The extension of our supply of supplementary reading should receive early attention, as well as a change in the class book in reading, especially above the fourth grade, where nothing new has been provided for several years.

Throughout the state, there is a general movement toward schoolroom decoration with works of art, and it is within a week, that I have received a circular letter from the State Board of Education enquiring as to what has been done in this work in Millis. Though we may not hope to compete with the larger and wealthier communities in this matter, it is not too much to say that something should be done to increase the attractiveness of the schoolroom as well as to put before the pupils copies of pictures of true merit, as such an influence is but an added tendency toward establishing and maintaining the finer instincts of human nature.

Even at the present time our walls are not altogether bare, as we have standard portraits of Washington, Lincoln, Longfellow, and Holmes, and a good likeness of Gov. Wolcott; it gives me pleasure to acknowledge also, the recent gift of an excellent water-color, of the "Ship-yard, Camden, Me." from the artist, Geo. Gardner Phipps, and the Prang study of "Pines in the Twilight" from Dr. Abele, Quincy, a former principal of Adams school; credit is likewise given the resident whose thoughtful suggestion was the means of our receiving these two pictures.

That the women of the town have proven themselves deeply interested in the welfare of the schools hardly needs comment, but our indebtedness to them is cheerfully granted in considering the present movement to provide a fund for the purchase of much-needed books of reference for the high-grammar school.

We have already received from an unknown donor the following books: Wood's Illustrated Natural History, Young Folks' Cyclopædia of Persons and Places, and Young Folks' Cyclopædia of Common Things. The gift of money from the Boggastow Club to be used in the purchase of an encyclopædia, is gratefully recognized.

As straws show which way the wind blows, so these indications may justly be assumed to represent a favorable attitude on the part of the people to the schools, but if all could know the difficulties which the school committee have to meet, there would be an even higher estimation of the labors of this department.

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation of the spirit and faithful labors of the teachers, the hearty co-operation of the committee in the measures advanced for the welfare of the schools, and the effort of all others who have either directly or indirectly aided us in the work of the year.

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. Whipple,

Superintendent of Schools.

Millis, Feb. 1, 1898.

CONTENTS.

Assessors, Report of the 45
Cemetery, Report on the 42
Collector, Report of the 44
Fire Engineers, Report of the 37
Jurors, List of 32
Overseers of the Poor, Report of 33
Public Library, Report of the Trustees of 40
School Committee, Report of the 49
Selectmen, Report of the 25
Town Meetings, Records of the 5
Town Officers, List of the 3
Treasurer, Report of the 21
Vital Statistics 19
Water Commissioners, Report of the 46